



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

Harrison Township
Van Wert County
12975 Schumm Road
Ohio City, Ohio 45874

To the Board of Trustees:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

September 4, 2007

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Harrison Township
Van Wert County
12975 Schumm Road
Ohio City, Ohio 45874

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Harrison Township, Van Wert County, (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The Township processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP requires presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require townships to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. The following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Harrison Township, Van Wert County, as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Township has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 4, 2007, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

September 4, 2007

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
Cash Receipts:				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$11,988	\$59,896		\$71,884
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	665			665
Intergovernmental	182,836	110,371	\$50,000	343,207
Earnings on Investments	3,009	585		3,594
Miscellaneous	197			197
Total Cash Receipts	<u>198,695</u>	<u>170,852</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>419,547</u>
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	70,409	30,554		100,963
Public Safety	6,789			6,789
Public Works	1,093	75,998		77,091
Health	7,143	35		7,178
Capital Outlay	23,154	5,001	50,000	78,155
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal	5,850	5,945		11,795
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	705	610		1,315
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>115,143</u>	<u>118,143</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>283,286</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>83,552</u>	<u>52,709</u>		<u>136,261</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>11,405</u>	<u>112,857</u>		<u>124,262</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$94,957</u>	<u>\$165,566</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$260,523</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$12,025	\$61,076	\$73,101
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	1,643	100	1,743
Intergovernmental	25,391	99,088	124,479
Earnings on Investments	1,457	165	1,622
Miscellaneous	41		41
Total Cash Receipts	<u>40,557</u>	<u>160,429</u>	<u>200,986</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	75,871	30,285	106,156
Public Safety	563		563
Public Works	2,934	80,369	83,303
Health	12,634	28	12,662
Capital Outlay	336	1,263	1,599
Debt Service:			
Redemption of Principal		11,796	11,796
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges		1,315	1,315
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>92,338</u>	<u>125,056</u>	<u>217,394</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>(51,781)</u>	<u>35,373</u>	<u>(16,408)</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>63,186</u>	<u>77,484</u>	<u>140,670</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$11,405</u>	<u>\$112,857</u>	<u>\$124,262</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Harrison Township, Van Wert County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection and emergency medical services. The Township contracts with the Village of Wren and the Village of Convoy to provide fire and ambulance services.

The Township participates in Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a public entity risk pool. OTARMA is a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships for insurance coverage. Note 7 to the financial statements provides additional information for this risk pool membership.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

B. Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The Township values certificates of deposit at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads and bridges.

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

Special Levy Fund - This fund receives property tax money to pay for fire and EMS services.

3. Capital Project Funds

These funds account for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

Issue II Fund - The Township received a grant from the State of Ohio in 2006 to repave various Township roads.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law

A summary of 2006 and 2005 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005
(Continued)**

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investments pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	2005	2006
Demand deposits	\$62,948	\$197,548
Certificates of deposit	61,314	62,975
Total deposits	124,262	260,523

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2006 and 2005 follows:

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$100,567	\$198,695	\$98,128
Special Revenue	164,088	170,852	6,764
Capital Projects	50,000	50,000	0
Total	\$314,655	\$419,547	\$104,892

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$105,355	\$115,143	(\$9,788)
Special Revenue	223,402	118,143	105,259
Capital Projects	50,000	50,000	0
Total	\$378,757	\$283,286	\$95,471

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$40,455	\$40,557	\$102
Special Revenue	156,364	160,429	4,065
Total	\$196,819	\$200,986	\$4,167

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$109,394	\$92,338	\$17,056
Special Revenue	226,395	125,056	101,339
Total	\$335,789	\$217,394	\$118,395

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the General Fund by \$9,788 for the year ended December 31, 2006, and all purchases were not certified as to the availability of appropriations prior to entering into purchase commitments.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005
(Continued)**

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2006 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
\$60,000 Equipment Acquisition Bond	\$19,026	3%
Total	\$19,026	

The Township issued a general obligation bond in June 2003 to finance the purchase of a new dump truck and plowing equipment for Township road maintenance. Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	Equipment Acquisition Bond
Year ending December 31:	
2007	\$13,098
2008	6,549
Total	\$19,647

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's elected officials belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plans' benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2005, OPERS members contributed 8.5% of their wages. The Township contributed an amount equaling 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. For 2006, OPERS participants contributed 9% of their wages. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.70% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2006.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005
(Continued)**

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty Coverage

For an occurrence prior to January 1, 2006 OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per occurrence, including claim adjustment expenses. OTARMA pays a percentage of its contributions to APEEP. APEEP reinsures claims exceeding \$250,000, up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. For an occurrence on or subsequent to January 1, 2006, the Pool retains casualty risk up to \$350,000 per occurrence, including loss adjustment expenses. Claims exceeding \$350,000 are reinsured with APEEP in an amount not to exceed \$2,650,000 for each claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect up to \$10,000,000 in additional coverage with the General Reinsurance Corporation, through contracts with OTARMA.

If losses exhaust OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP provides *excess of funds available* coverage up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000 (for claims prior to January 1, 2006) or \$3,000,000 (for claims on or after January 1, 2006) as noted above.

Property Coverage

Through 2004, OTARMA retained property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsured losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$500 million per occurrence.

Beginning in 2005, Travelers reinsures specific losses exceeding \$250,000 up to \$600 million per occurrence. APEEP reinsures members for specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$250,000 per occurrence, subject to an annual aggregate loss payment. Travelers provides aggregate stop-loss coverage based upon the combined members' total insurable values. If the stop loss is reached by payment of losses between \$100,000 and \$250,000, Travelers will reinsure specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to their \$600 million per occurrence limit. The aggregate stop-loss limit for 2006 was \$1,901,127.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreements do not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Property and casualty settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005
(Continued)**

7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2006 and 2005.

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Assets	\$32,031,312	\$30,485,638
Liabilities	(11,443,952)	(12,344,576)
Retained earnings	<u>\$20,587,360</u>	<u>\$18,141,062</u>
<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Assets	\$10,010,963	\$9,177,796
Liabilities	(676,709)	(1,406,031)
Retained earnings	<u>\$ 9,334,254</u>	<u>\$7,771,765</u>

At December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively, casualty coverage liabilities noted above include approximately \$10.8 million and \$11.6 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The Casualty Coverage assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$10.8 million and \$11.6 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 958 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$11,742. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Township terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership.

<u>Contributions to OTARMA</u>	
2004	\$5,557
2005	\$5,548
2006	\$5,871

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA provided they give written notice to OTARMA 60 days in advance of the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's budgetary contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to the pool. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.



Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Harrison Township
Van Wert County
12975 Schumm Road
Ohio City, Ohio 45874

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Harrison Township, Van Wert County, (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, and have issued our report thereon dated September 4, 2007, wherein we noted the Township prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We also noted the Township uses the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) to process its financial transactions. *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the Auditor of State's independence to audit the Township. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider significant deficiencies.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Township's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting
(Continued)**

We consider the following deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting: Finding 2006-001 through 2006-003.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. However, of the significant deficiencies described above, we believe findings number 2006-001 and 2006-002 are also material weaknesses.

We also noted certain internal control matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated September 4, 2007.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2006-001 through 2006-003.

We also noted certain noncompliance or other matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated September 4, 2007.

The Township's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit the Township's responses and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and Board of Trustees. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

September 4, 2007

HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

FINDING NUMBER 2006-001

Noncompliance Citation – Material Weakness

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

1. **"Then and Now" certificate** – If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Township has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Township.

2. **Blanket certificate** – Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates not exceeding an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by the legislative authority, against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the current year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.
3. **Super Blanket certificate** – The Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any one line item appropriation.

The Township did not properly certify the availability of funds prior to purchase commitment for 18.75% of disbursements in 2005 and 2006, and the aforementioned exceptions were not properly utilized. The failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending and negative cash fund balances.

**FINDING NUMBER 2006-001
(Continued)**

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Township's Fiscal Officer certify that the funds are or will be available prior to the obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The fiscal officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The fiscal officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

Officials Response:

The Township Fiscal Officer intends to comply with the certification requirement by utilizing the then and now exception for purchases that are not certified by purchase order.

FINDING NUMBER 2006-002

Noncompliance Citation – Material Weakness

Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.24(C) states that Trustees receiving per diem compensation must resolve a method by which each trustee shall periodically notify the township clerk of the number of days spent on township services and the kinds of services rendered on those days. The per diem compensation shall be paid from the township general fund or from other township funds in proportion to the kinds of services rendered, as documented. (For example, the township could charge trustee time spent on road repairs to the road & bridge fund.)

Per the above, trustees must keep records of the time spent on various tasks and the fund to which the township will charge their costs. (The sole exception to this is for trustees charging all salaries to the general fund, as described above.) There is no one method for documenting time and the kinds of services rendered. A diary, time sheets or other methods will suffice if they include the information described above.

In addition, for salaries not paid from the general fund, effective October 19, 2004, OAG Opinion 2004-036 requires trustees to establish administrative procedures to document the proportionate amount chargeable to other township funds based on the kinds of services rendered. The "administrative procedures" can be timesheets or a similar method of record keeping, as long as the trustees document all time spent on township business and the type of service performed, in a manner similar to trustees paid per diem compensation. If trustees do not document their time, then no part of salaries may be paid from these other funds.

Prior to this OAG Opinion, the AOS accepted resolutions that specified percentages of salaries to allocate to various funds, as complying with RC 505.24(C). This OAG Opinion alters that conclusion. Resolutions to pay trustees by salary should now specify that a township will allocate salaries based on documentation the trustees submit, not based on percentages a resolution specifies.

**FINDING NUMBER 2006-002
(Continued)**

The Township paid Trustees salaries from the General Fund, Motor Vehicle License Fund, Gasoline Tax Fund, and Road and Bridge Fund for 2005. During 2006 the Township paid Trustees salaries from the Motor Vehicle License Fund, Gasoline Tax Fund, and Road and Bridge Funds. The Harrison Township Trustees had not adopted a formal resolution to pay Trustee salaries from any fund other than the General, therefore those expenditures were in violation of this section were allocated back to the General Fund by audit adjustments for both years. The accompanying financial statements include the required adjustments to correctly record the expenditures in the General Fund for both years.

Commencing January 1, 2006, townships must comply with the OAG opinion. Noncompliance with the OAG opinion for subsequent audits may result in GAGAS level findings and findings for adjustment and/or scope qualifications in the AOS' opinion on the financial statements because we would have no acceptable evidence supporting how the township allocated salaries to funds

Officials Response:

The Township Trustees intend to comply in the future by providing the Fiscal Officer with documentation of time spent on road projects.

FINDING NUMBER 2006-003

Noncompliance Citation / Significant Deficiency

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) states that no subdivision or taxing unit is to expend money unless it has been appropriated. This prohibits expenditures from exceeding appropriations.

The Township had expenditures in excess of the amount appropriated for the General Fund of \$9,788 in 2006.

The Township should periodically review the remaining appropriations and when the amounts remaining are insufficient to cover expenditures amend the appropriations. Appropriation amendments must follow the same procedures as the adoption of the original appropriation measure and should be accompanied by a review of estimated resources for sufficiency to cover the amendment amount.

Officials Response:

The Township intends to comply with requirement by monitoring the amounts appropriated and expended periodically during the year.

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP
VAN WERT COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2004-001	Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.60 Overpayment of Insurance	Yes	Fully Corrected
2004-002	Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) Failure to certify the availability of funds.	No	Reissued as finding 2006-001
2004-003	Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.10 failure to post revenue to the appropriate special funds.	Yes	Issued as management letter level comment for 2006 and 2005.
2004-004	Ohio Rev. Code Section 507.04 Failure to code expenditures properly.	Yes	Fully Corrected



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

HARRISON TOWNSHIP

VAN WERT COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
NOVEMBER 15, 2007**